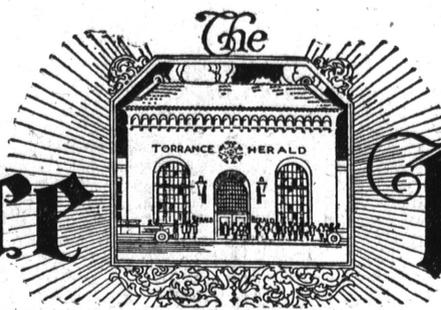




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# CONNER TO BE ACTING POSTMASTER

## WATER LOAN APPLICATION PASSES STATE PWA

### OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENT IS MADE TODAY

May Be Necessary For Mayor Conner to Resign From City Council; Term Does Not Expire Until 1936

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.—(Special to The Torrance Herald from United Press)—Postmaster General James H. Farley today announced the appointment of Mayor C. Earl Conner to the position of Acting Postmaster of Torrance.

The dispatch from Washington did not state the exact date that Mayor Conner will take over his duties at the post office, but such changes usually take effect at once. What effect the appointment will have upon Mayor Conner remaining on the city council is not disclosed. It is well known, however, that Mayor Conner is anxious to complete the financing of the municipal water system, and also a number of other important city affairs in which he has been the leading spirit before relinquishing his position on the city council.

On the other hand, three councilmen at Burbank, California, who are connected with the Home Owners Corporation, resigned their city posts yesterday because of an order of President Roosevelt that no municipal officerholder may occupy a federal post. Mayor Conner's term on the Torrance city council does not expire until 1936.

That the naming of a new postmaster at Torrance was expected by the present postmaster, Alfred Gourdier, is indicated by his reported intention of running for the office of city clerk in the April 9 election. Gourdier was appointed postmaster at Torrance in 1916 by President Woodrow Wilson and has held the office ever since.

Under the rules of the post office department, Mayor Conner will first be appointed acting postmaster, pending civil service examination, when it is expected that his appointment will be made permanent.

### First National Reorganization Plan Progresses

Work of reorganizing the First National Bank of Torrance under the plan approved early in January by the comptroller of the currency, advanced this week with the receipt of specimen forms for depositors and stockholders to sign. It is stated by J. W. Post, conservator.

Printed copies of the specimen forms were immediately ordered and samples returned to Washington for final approval. As soon as the final copy of the printed blanks is given, all depositors will be contacted and complete details of the reorganization plan explained, Mr. Post said.

### Who Remembers When

The first physician arrived in Torrance and who was he? What was the first church established in Torrance and where was it located?

Where was the first school house? Where was the library located and who was librarian?

Answers to last week's Who Remembers When: The first wedding took place in Torrance on March 7, 1914. The contracting parties were R. O. Denison of the purchasing department of the Union Tool, and Miss Freda May Barden. They were married by Rev. William Wirt Choate.

The first home in Torrance was purchased by Torrance won a special prize on its entry in the Rose Parade January 1, 1914. The theme was "Industry," the float carried three groups, an oil derrick, a forge and anvil, and a steam shovel. In the shovel sat a little girl who tossed out flowers to the spectators. The little girl was Miss Wanda Stachowicz, now a grand opera singer, at present living in New York.

The first officers of the Torrance Athletic Association were Richard R. Smith, president; H. S. McManus, first vice president; J. J. Byrnes, second vice president; Dr. N. A. Leake, corresponding secretary; Melvin B. Field, financial secretary; H. Burmaster, treasurer.

### Birthday Ball For President Is Big Success

Torrance Turns Out 400 Strong to Honor Roosevelt and Help Crippled Children

Tribute to the popularity and humanity of President Franklin D. Roosevelt was paid by over 400 residents of Torrance and neighboring communities Tuesday evening when they gathered at the Hollywood-Riviera clubhouse to celebrate the 52nd birthday anniversary of the nation's chief executive, and to contribute their bit to the endowment of the Warm Springs Foundation, which insists on carrying on a fight against children victims of infantile paralysis.

From the time the birthday ball for the President began at 8 o'clock until a half hour after midnight, the clubhouse rang with laughter. The party was characterized by everyone as "the best community frolic that has ever been held in Torrance." Youngsters and oldsters forgot their worries for the evening and all joined in the gaieties of the occasion.

The radio address of President Roosevelt opened the evening's program, and was followed by a grand march led by Mayor and Mrs. C. Earl Conner, Jack V. Murray, master of ceremonies. Much credit for the highly successful party is due to Beverly B. Smith, president of the Torrance Democratic Club, who was general chairman. Mr. Smith, in a brief address, expressed his appreciation for assistance given him by over 30 individuals and organizations in Torrance, Gardena and Harbor City. City Clerk Bartlett was in charge of ticket sales.

Warm praise and enthusiastic applause was given to the Meinzer Pastry Shop of Torrance, for the donation of a 50-pound, triple-layer birthday cake, beautifully decorated by Arthur Meinzer. Late in the evening the large cake was cut and served to the guests.

Pending the compilation of expenses, Beverly Smith, chairman, stated that he could not say definitely how much was realized from the ball for the Warm Springs Foundation, but he predicted that Torrance will be able to make a substantial contribution.

Mr. Smith stated he would make a complete report at the Monday evening meeting of the Torrance Democratic Club.

### Approve Plans For Rebuilding School

Preliminary plans for reconstruction of the Torrance elementary school have been approved by the Los Angeles board of education. The work proposed to be done was outlined recently by R. McC. Beaufield, structural engineer engaged by the school district officials.

Cost of the work was estimated at \$72,744. Next step will be to advertise for bids and it is understood that this probably will be ordered by the board shortly.

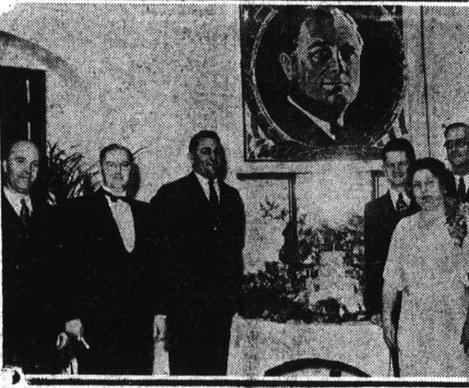
### Parked Car Causes Accident Tuesday

Forrest L. Fheetge, 910 Rosewood street, Inglewood, reported to police Tuesday morning that he had collided with a car parked on Hawthorne boulevard, which had been left there about 5:30 a. m. out of gas. The car was registered to George Henjan, 1341 East 19th street, Los Angeles. Fheetge's sister had her left arm broken in the crash and was taken to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital for treatment.

### Democratic Club Meets On Monday

The regular monthly meeting of the Torrance Democratic Club will be held Monday evening, February 5, at Earl's Cafe at 8 o'clock.

### SIX OF THE 400 AT PRESIDENT BALL



Among those who were active in staging the highly successful birthday ball for the President at the Hollywood-Riviera Clubhouse Tuesday evening were: (Left to right) Grover C. Whyte, editor-publisher Torrance Herald; Jack V. Murray, master of ceremonies; Beverly B. Smith, general chairman; Mayor C. Earl Conner; Mrs. Conner and City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. In the center of the group may be seen the big 50-pound cake with its 52 candles donated by the Meinzer Pastry Shop.

### Change Method of Paying Off CWA Employees

Men Will Draw Checks At Numbered Station Most Convenient

A complete change in the method of paying off the 65,000 CWA workers in Los Angeles county was announced last night by Major Jules E. Hanique, chief engineer and executive officer for the county, in the following order: "Commencing next Monday, February 5, 1934, all Los Angeles county CWA field workers, with the exception of those on projects in the Antelope Valley, will be paid at 54 stations located at various points in the city and county of Los Angeles. Each man will be paid at the station he has designated as most convenient to himself. On projects north of Saugus and in the Antelope Valley the usual procedure will continue.

"Timekeepers on the various projects in the county are to designate the station of his choice. Each station is given a number and the number chosen by the worker is recorded on his time card and stub, together with the address of this station.

"Then on the usual pay-day of the project upon which he is working, between the hours of 3 and 5 p. m., or between the same hours of any week day thereafter, the worker may go to the station.

### Scott Is Burned In Blinding Flash From High Voltage Wires

The piercing glare from an arc in shorted high voltage wires on which he was working, temporarily blinded R. J. Scott, 1419 Marcella avenue, last Thursday and the heat from the blaze severely burned both hands. Scott was tracing the short on wires carrying a voltage of 440, and narrowly escaped more deadly injury. Although his eyes were not burned he was compelled to remain in a dark room for three days, but is now able to be about his work as usual.

### NEW AD-MAN JOINS STAFF OF NEWSPAPER

Appointment of A. B. Mixson as advertising manager of the Torrance Herald and Lomita News is announced today by Grover C. Whyte, editor-publisher. Mr. Mixson will begin his duties at Torrance next Monday, having resigned a position this week on the advertising staff of the Huntington Park Signal.

Mr. Mixson brings to Herald advertisers the benefits of 12 years of experience in advertising, including newspaper display and classified and radio. He is a native of Nebraska and secured his early training on the staff of the Omaha Bee and Sioux City Tribune.

Mr. and Mrs. Mixson and their children, Junior, age 9, and June, age 8, will make their home in Torrance, and expect to take part in the civic and social life of this community.

### Boy Scout Week Opens Tuesday

Program Outlined For Scouters Calls For Mobilization Saturday

Boy Scout week, which officially begins next Tuesday, February 6, with a banquet to be held in Los Angeles, will be observed by the Scouts of Torrance throughout the week.

Members of committees of organizations sponsoring Scouts in Torrance will attend the banquet when the Silver Beavers and Scoutmasters Keys will be awarded, and an inspirational program will be carried out.

Thursday, February 8, is anniversary day, "Scout At Home Night" when each Scout will be expected to renew his Scout oath in his own home. Troop muster or open house night will be held Friday night.

The week will close with mobilization day on Saturday. The time will be at 8:45 a. m. at the Scout hall in Torrance for local Scouts. Scouts are expected to attend church on Sunday as a final observance.

### Torrance Ranks Next to Top In Tax Collections

Lynwood Shows Lowest Percentage of Tax Payments Among 43 Municipalities

Receipt this week by City Clerk Bartlett of the final check covering tax collections for the first half of the 1933-34 taxes, enriches the city treasury by \$18,266.94, and brought the total collections for the first half of the year to \$97,403.33. This represents 65.51 per cent of the total levy of \$148,667, placing Torrance next to the top in the list of 43 cities in the county. The average for Los Angeles county as a whole was placed by County Auditor Payne at approximately 48 per cent, as against 50 per cent a year ago.

In the following list of percentages of taxes collected for the first half of the paying period, as compiled by the county auditor's office, it will be noted that El Segundo is high, as usual, because a major oil company holds extensive properties there and generally pays its entire tax bill in the first installment, to obtain a rebate. Torrance ranks second and Lynwood lowest. Percentages are as follows: El Segundo, 80.04; Torrance, 65.51; Signal Hill, 60.04; Redondo Beach, 49.04; Gardena, 39.37; Compton, 39.12; Alhambra, 39.94; Avon, 37.72; Bell, 40.33; Beverly Hills, 50.55; Burbank, 42.71; Claremont, 54.83; Covina, 54.98; Culver City, 52.28; Glendale, 44.57; Huntington Park, 46.83; La Verne, 55.44; Lynwood, 28.38; Maywood, 41.61; Pomona, 51.12; San Fernando, 48.33; San Gabriel, 43.07; San Marino, 50.35; Sierra Madre, 49.22; South Gate, 42.34; South Pasadena, 48.38; and Los Angeles, 47.50.

First installment payments became delinquent December 5, and an 8 per cent penalty now has been added. Second installment payments now are being paid, and the money is coming in slowly, at the rate of between \$20,000 and \$30,000 a day, according to W. O. Welch, county tax collector. Second installment payments will become delinquent April 20, after which a 3 per cent penalty will be added. In previous years 10 per cent has been added for delinquent first installments and 3 per cent for delinquent second installments.

### Playgrounds At Ball Park Open On Saturdays

Downtown Lot Ready For Children's Playground By Next Week

Playgrounds at the municipal ball park will be open for recreation by children of Torrance from 10 to 5 o'clock every Saturday, beginning this week, says Coach Bernard J. Donahue, who is in charge of the activities here.

It is expected that the downtown playground at Cravens and Post avenues, where a large vacant lot has been leveled off and put in shape, will be ready by the following Saturday, for the convenience of "little tots who can not go to the city park unescorted."

Clubrooms on Cabrillo avenue, in the building formerly used by the Buick automobile agency, will soon be ready for the use of adults and young people who are interested in games of various sorts. Checkers and other parlor games will be available. Volley ball, croquet and basketball courts are being prepared here so that all types of entertainment and exercise will be offered. The work is going on well, and as soon as the various centers are ready they will be thrown open to the public, and any resident of Torrance who wishes to make use of their recreational opportunities is not only welcome but urged to do so.

### EXPECT FINAL APPROVAL OF LOAN WHEN CONGRESS VOTES INCREASED FUNDS FOR PWA

Successful Hurdling of Objections of Los Angeles Group Viewed As Most Difficult Job

The application of the city of Torrance for a \$375,000 loan from the federal Public Works Administration with which to construct a new municipal water system has been passed upon by the state advisory board at Los Angeles and forwarded to Washington, Mayor C. Earl Conner was told yesterday by E. E. Trask, chief engineer of the PWA at Los Angeles.

### WOMAN WALKS INTO SIDE OF SPEEDING CAR

Mrs. Pearl Birdsall Dies of Injuries After Peculiar Accident

Mrs. Pearl L. Birdsall, age 29, residing at 4425 Torrance boulevard, died at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, from injuries received some hours earlier in a peculiar accident near her home.

Mrs. Birdsall was walking along Torrance boulevard between Maple and Madrona avenue about 11:30 Sunday night when she was struck by a car driven by G. W. Yates, 516 North Elm Drive, Beverly Hills, who was going west on the highway.

According to Yates, he was driving about 40 miles an hour, when the woman appeared in front of him at the side of the road, and as he passed her she walked into the car her body striking the coupe at the rear of the door.

Yates was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Mary Yates, and the pair immediately stopped to render aid to the woman who was found to be badly injured. Night Police Officers Ernest Ashton and Schuracher were called to the scene and took Mrs. Birdsall, then unidentified, to the hospital, where it was seen that her condition was critical. Her right arm was broken and almost torn from her body, and she had received numerous other cuts and contusions.

At the time of the accident, Mrs. Birdsall was wearing a pair of brown trousers, a red sweater, wind jacket, scarf and low shoes, and the only clues to her identity were two rings, a wedding ring with the initials E. E. B. P. L. M. 12-12-'21, and a Lincoln high school class ring with the date 1919.

Friends of the family, who had been searching for the woman, missing for some hours from her home, identified the body, which had been taken from the hospital to Stone & Myers mortuary.

The husband, Ernest E. Birdsall, related to police that he and his wife had retired about 8 o'clock Sunday night. About 11 o'clock he awoke and found Mrs. Birdsall had left the house. He went out to look for her, but failed to locate her where he had expected to do so, and returned home and again went to bed. No news of her whereabouts was secured until police called him late in the afternoon to claim his wife's body.

Yates was not held. According to his story, substantiated by his wife, the affair was not due to any negligence on his part.

### Bids On Highway Opened Next Week

Bids for the improvement of state highway No. 60, which traverses the coast southerly from Oxnard to Redondo and then turns easterly along the south part of Torrance into Long Beach, will be opened on February 7. It was announced today by the state department of public works.

The link is between Alameda street and the Los Angeles city limits. The new pavement will be asphaltic concrete, and the work involves grading, excavation of hillsides, gutters, water pipe and four concrete catch basins for flood waters.

### INCOME TAX IN A NUTSHELL

WHO? Single persons who had net income of \$1000 or more or gross income of \$5000 or more, and married couples who had net income of \$2500 or more or gross income of \$5000 or more must file returns.

WHEN? The filing period begins January 1 and ends March 15, 1934.

WHERE? Collector of internal revenue for the district in which the person lives or has his principal place of business.

HOW? See instructions on forms 1040-A and 1040.

WHAT? Four percent normal tax on the first \$900 in excess of the personal exemption and credits. Eight percent normal tax on the balance of net income. Surtax on net income in excess of \$4000.